

INSIDE

Elba Masonic
Lodge holds
special meeting



INSIDE

Commissioner
speaks at Elba
Lions Club meeting



The Elba Clipper

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50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 3, 2023

1 Section, 8 Pages

With bonds totaling over \$1 million

Enterprise man arrested on multiple drug charges

On Wednesday, July 26, members of the Region B Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force along with law enforcement personnel from the Coffee County Sheriff's Office, Enterprise Police Department, and Houston County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant in the 500 Block of West Adams Street in Enterprise, Ala.

"The search warrant was the culmination of an investigation that revolved around the distribution of illegal narcotics in the Enterprise area," said Coffee County Sheriff Scott Byrd.

The search warrant yielded approximately 220 grams of cocaine, 44 grams of marijuana, evidence of a



Marcus Anton Snell

drug manufacturing operation, and multiple firearms, according to information released by the Coffee County Sheriff's Office.

Marcus Anton Snell, age 40, of Enterprise, was arrested and charged with two

counts of distributing illegal narcotics – controlled substance, drug trafficking, conspiracy to distribute illegal narcotics, possession of marijuana – first degree, possession of a controlled substance and manufacture of a controlled substance. His total bond for all charges was set at \$1,150,000.

Snell remained in the Coffee County Jail as of press time this week.

The Region B Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force consist of law enforcement personnel from Coffee County Sheriff's Office, Enterprise Police Department, Houston County Sheriff's Office, Dale County Sheriff's Office, Henry County Sheriff's Office, Eufaula Police Department, Geneva County Sheriff's Office, and Geneva Police Department.



Local emergency personnel responded to this two-vehicle wreck Wednesday afternoon, July 26, at the intersection of Highway 203 and Martin Luther King Drive in Elba (by the Dollar General store). It appeared the accident was the result of failure to yield to oncoming traffic at the intersection. No injuries were reported from this accident, but the vehicles sustained major damages.

Kinston man arrested on drug charges

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office arrested a Kinston, Ala. man Monday, July 31, on multiple drug offenses, according to county jail records.

The Coffee County Jail records show that Dave Wilks, age 68, of Kinston was arrested Monday afternoon and booked into the jail at 1:06 p.m. The charges he faces include two counts of possession of a controlled substance, one count of possession of marijuana – second degree, one count of misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, and misdemeanor count of failure to appear.



by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Board of Education met Tuesday evening, July 25, for the regular monthly board meeting, and a handful of personnel matters were

presented to the board members for their consideration.

The board accepted the resignation of high school assistant principal Jason Tucker. Superintendent Chris Moseley said Tucker had accepted a teaching position at Samson.

Also, the board accepted a resignation from elementary school teacher Kelly Lindsey. The superintendent said she had accepted a position that has opened within the Opp School System.

"She has been wonderful for us. We hate to lose her, but I understand Opp is her home," Moseley said

regarding Lindsey.

Filling the vacancy created by Lindsey at the elementary school, Moseley presented a recommendation from EES principal Kenya Martin to hire Stephanie Reeves as an elementary school teacher.

The board also approved a recommendation from Elba High School principal Dr. Warren Weeks to hire Angela Sanders as an English teacher for the high school. Moseley said she would be coming to Elba from Phenix City, Ala.

The superintendent said she is a certified English teacher. He added that Sanders actually carries a dual certification for teaching, and he expressed excitement to add her to the staff of Elba City Schools.

The only other personnel matter considered by the

board during the meeting was to accept the resignation of bus driver Theresa Carr. Moseley said she had taken a driving job outside the school sector and could not make her schedule work to do both.

Prior to adjourning, the board voted unanimously to approve a three-year principal's contract with Dr. Weeks as the high school principal. The motion approved by the board also provided authorization for the superintendent and board president, Johnny Senn, to execute the contract with Weeks on behalf of the board.

Elba City Schools began the 2023-2024 school year this week as teachers/staff returned on Tuesday, Aug. 1, and the student will return for their first day of school Friday, Aug. 4th.

Former Coffee County teacher pleads guilty to distributing obscene material to a student

On Monday, July 31, Heartlee Pittman (Sanders) appeared in the District Court of Coffee County before the Honorable Josh Wilson and entered into a plea agreement with the State of Alabama wherein she entered a guilty plea to the charge of school employee



Pittman

distributing obscene material to a student, a Class A misdemeanor.

Pittman had previously resigned from her employment with the Coffee County Board of Education.

In exchange for her guilty plea, Pittman received a one-year suspended sentence in the Coffee County

Jail with a two-year probation term. During her probation, she is not to have any contact with the student victim in this case.

"It was important to the state to reach a satisfactory resolution in this case," said 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney James Tarbox. "This agreement ensured that both the case was resolved, and the student victim did not have to be subjected to the court process. Further, the state was concerned about ensuring the defendant had no further contact with children in future employment."

If the system works as it

should, Tarbox said Pittman should be unable to work in education or other childcare related fields in the future.

The District Attorney's Office thanks the Coffee County School System and the Coffee County Sheriff's Office for their work in investigating this matter.

You're Invited!

Coffee County Schools will hold a "Grand Opening" for the new New Brockton Middle School building Thursday, Aug. 3, at 6 p.m.

A ribbon cutting for the new building will be held immediately following the Coffee County Board of Education meeting, which will be held from the New Brockton High School auditorium at 5:30 p.m.

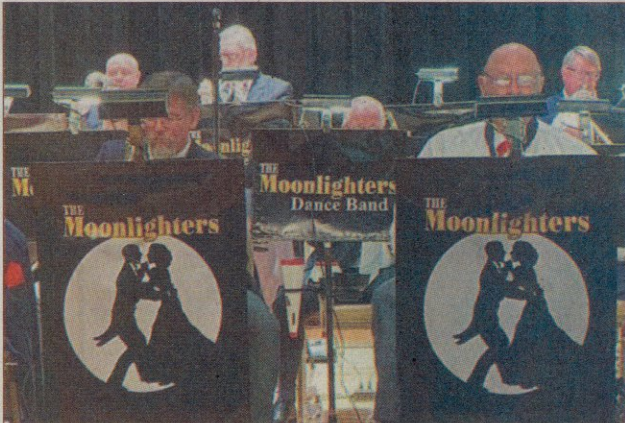
Light refreshments will be served after the ribbon cutting.

'Big Band' music coming to Elba next Thursday night, Aug. 10th

There is a time for music, and Thursday evening, Aug. 10, will be that time in Elba, Alabama when the Dothan Moonlighters come to town.

The Elba Chamber of Commerce/Elba Main Street in conjunction with the Elba Historic Preservation Committee invites all to enjoy an evening with The Dothan Moonlighters beginning at 6 pm. next Thursday, Aug. 10, from the historic Elba Theatre, located at 231 Court Ave., Elba. This is a fund raiser for an Elba Museum.

"It should be a fun evening as we listen and dance



to some big band music presented by the talented musicians that make up the Dothan Moonlighters orchestra," said Sandy

Williams, executive director of the Elba Chamber/MainStreet organizations. "Music enhances our lives, and this should be a fun night filled with great music."

Williams said the Moonlighters group consists of 22 musicians, and it is known for playing at all types of events in the Wiregrass area. She also noted that Elba Mayor Tom Maddox, a talented musician himself, would make

an appearance to play along with the group during next week's event.

Proceeds from ticket sales for this event will go towards purchasing display cases and other needs for the Elba 'History' Museum being created by the Elba Historic Preservation Committee, a committee of the Elba Chamber of Commerce. The plan is for the museum to be housed in a building on Court Street in downtown Elba (on the square).

Tickets for the Moonlighters concert are \$15 each and include light hors d'oeuvres. Williams said dress for the occasion is cocktail attire or Sunday wear, if preferred.

Tickets can be purchased at LillieAnne's, My Happy Place, Son Exposure, or the Elba Chamber office. For more information, call the Elba Chamber of Commerce office at (334) 897-3125.

12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney releases info on Pike County murder arrest

Twelfth Judicial Circuit District Attorney James Tarbox announced last week the arrest in Pike County of Larvey Woods in a murder case.

According to the district attorney, on Wednesday, July 26, Troy Police arrested Woods on a murder charge in the death of Essie Meadows. He said the investigation revealed that Woods and the victim had a prior dating rela-

tionship and in recent days, Woods had been arrested for multiple incidents of misdemeanor domestic violence.

Due to the nature of the crime, the D.A.'s Office sought to have Woods held without bond pursuant to Code of Alabama section 15-13-3, known as Aniah's Law. Senior Assistant District Attorney Jon Folmar represented the State at the Aniah's Law hearing late

in the afternoon on Thursday, July 27, before the Honorable Steven Curtis, District Judge of Pike County.

"Judge Curtis took the matter under advisement and issued an order granting the state's request and denied Defendant Woods the right to release," Tarbox said.

Woods will be held in the Pike County Jail without bond.



As teachers/staff returned to school Tuesday, Aug. 1, at Elba City Schools, they enjoyed a special guest speaker - Troy University Women's Head Basketball Coach Chanda Rigby. As she delivered a motivational speech to the educators, Rigby encouraged them to be "Game Changers" for their students. Coach Rigby is no stranger to Elba City Schools as her husband, Ed, is a former Elba High football coach. He led Elba to its 2015 Class 2A state championship.

Area Happenings

The Elba City Council will hold a special called meeting Friday, Aug. 4, at 2 p.m. at Elba City Hall.

Anyone wanting to review the MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama's CSBG or LIHEAP plans for Fiscal year 2024 may request a copy be emailed, viewed in person at the following address: 2950 County Road 377, Elba Alabama between the hours of 9Am-4PM Monday-Friday, or attend the Zoom meeting as listed below. The application is for tribal citizens that meet the federal poverty guidelines and reside in Second Congressional District. The Zoom meeting will be Monday, Aug 7, at 7 p.m. Register in advance for this meeting: <<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register?ZtEqc02gpp0pHdNnJ8nqyuAgAZMSwFUicf3p>> Those who register will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox


"Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all! By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall!" – John Dickinson

The U S Space Command is staying in Colorado, so says the president. This does not surprise us. Some say it is because we don't have Richard Shelby in Washington any longer. Others say it is because we do have Tommy Tuberville in Washington raising havoc with the military promotion plans. We will let our readers decide for themselves on this matter, but if you don't believe politics had anything to do with it, then we have some ocean front property in Tennessee we will sell you 'real cheap'!

Sunday morning as we were driving out of the driveway, headed to church, we spotted one of those electric scooters that are for rent around town sitting right at the curb in front of our house. Our first reaction was to look around for the operator, but there was no human in sight anywhere. Now here it is Tuesday afternoon, and that thing is still sitting there! Wonder if we can charge rent for parking it there, even though it is officially on the street right-of-way. We also wonder if the electric scooter ran out of electricity and if that is a warning of what could happen to us if driving one of those electric vehicles and it 'runs out of gas (electricity)' on some lonely, seldom traveled road? A gas can will not help and it would probably involve a tow truck to get us to a charging station where we would sit in line for thirty minutes as the car ahead of us is using the charging 'pump'. The bottom line of all this is that they are a long way from selling us on driving one of those 'green powered' machines!!

The recently adopted Alabama voter redistricting map changed the boundaries of each of the seven Congressional districts in what may have been a wasted special session of the legislature. The group that successfully challenged the previous revision all the way to the Supreme Court has now officially challenged this latest revision. They contend it does not meet the 'equal rights' requirement handed down by the panel of federal judges several months ago.

The record setting heat wave that is blanketing the world is a long way from being over, according to the weather experts. We were scanning the headlines one day this week and there was an opinion article on the heatwave and what is now considered a 'cool' day. We can't answer that because one day recently we thought it was a cool day and hit the grass with our trusty lawnmower. Just a few minutes into the project we were wet with sweat . . . completely and decided to take a break. It turned out that we were already over heated, and the blood pressure was going wacky. So a really cool day is something less than what we faced that day! Yesterday the splash pad was wrapped up with children and adults wisely seeking relief from this weather. They were more successful than those of us with grass to cut!

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Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, July 25, 2023, and Monday, July 31, 2023, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, July 25 – Animal complaint reported at 1404 Reese Ave (9:20 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1315 Hickman Ave (4:44 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 562 County Rd 502 (8:53 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in one verbal warning, one citation, and one written warning.

Wednesday, July 26 – Animal complaint reported at 939 Neil Grantham Dr (9:11 a.m.); Harassing communications reported to Elba Police (11:51 a.m.); Vehicle fire reported at 992 Hwy 203 (12:40 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 991 Hwy 203 (12:59 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 804 Hwy 203 (3:36 p.m.); Reckless driver reported at 29091 Hwy 87, Jack (7:48 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

Thursday, July 27 – Animal complaint reported at 1134 Pinecove Dr (8:01 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 991 Hwy 203 (2:35 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Sawyer St (3:31 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 839 Troy Hwy (3:37 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 145 Tiger Dr (4:06 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 992 Hwy 203 – w/arrest (6:07 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 563 County Rd 208, Jack (7:00 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 2801 Old Curtis Rd (9:47 p.m.). Seven traffic stops resulted in four verbal warnings, two written warnings, and one citation.

Friday, July 28 – Theft of property reported to

Elba Police (4:13 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 606 Simmons St (6:23 p.m.). Seven traffic stops resulted in four written warnings, two verbal warnings, and one citation.

Saturday, July 29 – Domestic complaint reported at 100 Beaver Dam St (12:57 a.m.); Reckless driver reported at 1560 Reese Ave (3:27 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 617 Putnam St (4:11 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 638 Claxton Ave (5:53 p.m.). Four traffic stops resulted in two written warnings, and two citations.

Sunday, July 30 – Suspicious person reported at the dog park (1:09 a.m.); Structure fire reported at 119 Old Samson Rd (6:58 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 720 E Davis St (3:32 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 12078 Hwy 125 (3:43 p.m.); Disturbance reported on Farris Ave (6:13 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Caroline St (7:29 p.m.); Report of shots fired at 606 Mullins Circle (7:38 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 804 Hwy 203 (8:56 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

Monday, July 31 – Theft by deception reported at 200 Buford St (7:49 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1267 Neil Grantham Dr (10:56 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 982 Drayton Ave (1:15 p.m.); Fraudulent use of a credit/debit card reported at 1315 Hickman Ave (3:17 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 145 Tiger Dr (9:33 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in three citations, and two written warnings.

Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder
Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou had a good Monday night at home plan formulated earlier this week...then, she got home and the whole plan went out the window!

After one of the Monday-est Monday's in a while, Lou Lou was looking forward to getting home after work, grilling some chops for the Gang, and taking it easy with Little Bean cuddled next to her on the couch. Then...well, let's just say the refrigerator had other plans!

Lou Lou went to the fridge to get some ice in preparation of making herself a glass of water when she noticed something was "off" with the freezer! The door opened way to easily, and upon inspection of the items in the freezer, she immediately noticed that things were not as frozen as they should have been. There was even water dripping from the top of the unit where condensation had formed.

"Houston...We have a problem!" Lou Lou declared.

Upon further inspection, Lou Lou concluded that the freezer door seal had stopped doing it's job properly. So, off to Google-land she went to see if there was "a fix" for the problem.

After trying a couple of YouTube video suggestions for the problem, neither of which worked, Lou Lou turned to Sister and said, "We really got a problem!"

Lou Lou and Sister had been discussing a need to purchase a bigger refrigerator, but the plan (another one about to be thrown out the window) had been to wait until closer to year's end to make that purchase. Not wanting to waste money trying to fix the current problem when the plan was to buy new eventually anyway, the decision was quickly made to go ahead and get a new one.

Next problem...it was almost closing time for the local furniture/appliance store. Once the decision to buy a new one was made, Lou Lou and Sister jumped in the vehicle

and zoomed away to the

store arriving only minutes before closing time. Luckily, the store had a fridge in stock that would fit perfectly with the original "buy a new fridge" plan. So, that decision was made easy.

Lou Lou then proceeded to explain the dire need to get the new fridge home quickly, and the sales attendant offered perfect Yonder-like service as she offered to stay a few minutes late at work to allow Papa time to get to the store with his trailer so the Gang could load up the new fridge and get it home! You just can't ask for better service than the good 'ole Yonder service!!

Next came the fun part...fridge loaded on Papa's trailer with a security rope around it, off the Gang went back home. Sister had convinced Lou Lou to ride with Papa.

A couple of traffic lights later, and Lou Lou was jumping out of the truck to go back to the trailer and "re-snug" the tie around rope that has slipped some along the way. The second time that was repeated, on the Gang's home road, Lou Lou decided to just stay in the trailer the rest of the way home and keep a good pull on the security rope.

The getting the new fridge in the house also was a series of laughs as the gang worked together to get it from the trailer and inside the house. As always, there was at least two or three disagreements on how it was being done, but in the end, no one's feelings got hurt! So, Lou Lou declared it a relative success!

A short while later, the new fridge was in place, but, those earlier plans to grill some chops for supper were completely gone. Instead, it was a trip to a drive-thru to pick up some chicken tenders and onion rings for the night! As for the chops, they made their way to the freezer for now!

Maybe Lou Lou will get around to grilling them sooner rather than later. At least they are frozen solid! Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

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Troy University biomedical researcher successfully reduces prostate cancer protein in early experiment

Troy University biomedical researcher Dr. Jacqueline Jones was recently awarded a \$95,000 grant from the Elsa U. Pardee Foundation to conduct research on the factors that drive advanced stages of prostate cancer with the goal of finding a cure. Recently, she and her team saw the successful reduction of a protein in the cancer cells for the first time.

Using human cells, Jones aims to identify ways researchers can understand the molecular cues that help drive cancer. Officially named FoxI3 Regulation of Prostate Cancer Metastasis within the Tumor Microenvironment, her research involves using cloning and gene knock-outs—a widely-used genetic engineering technique that involves the targeted removal or inactivation of a specific gene within an organism’s genome.

“What we’re trying to do is identify the factors that contribute to whether a patient gets an advanced stage of prostate cancer and how we can help mitigate that from

happening,” she explained. “We want to understand what factors help drive prostate cancer to the bone.” Jones and her small team of undergraduate and graduate students at TROY, in collaboration with her colleagues at the University of Michigan and Johns Hopkins University, have identified a gene they believe contributes to the “aggressiveness” of prostate cancer.

“Genetically-engineered human prostate cancer cells that are deficient in FOXI3 will be used to conduct additional experiments and tests to determine if the cancer reverts back to a more normal-like state,” she said. “We’ll conduct a series of experiments and in-vivo studies where we’ll put these genetically modified cells back into mice and see if they’re able to grow tumors. If no tumors grow, we’ll have been successful.”

Progress was made already Wednesday, July 19 with the successful reduction of the protein she and the team previously identified. Next,

the samples will be sent to an animal research facility at Tuskegee University. “Our protein of interest was very low, which means our knockout worked,” she said. “This is great. Genetically engineered clones take months, up to a year. We’ve been growing about 700 different clones, so when you get results it’s very exciting. This is our first time seeing this.”

TROY’s lab boasts a real-time PCR machine that is used around the world to evaluate gene expression along with a microscope capable of immunofluorescence, a way to cause cells to fluoresce different colors like green so that various proteins in cancerous cells can be tracked.

“The fact that we were able to get this grant funding, considering all the other schools that have received this type of funding, strongly suggests that we’re capable of doing research conducted at R-2 and even R-1 research institutions,” Jones said. “That speaks volumes to our ability to do research here and to create novel

ideas that are funded by our peers, not just locally but our peers internationally. I think it speaks volumes as to our potential moving forward at Troy University and the need for more biomedically-focused scientists.”

Jones earned her Ph.D. in 2012 from Tuskegee University with a collaborative training program in pathology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She also earned her Master of Business Administration from TROY in 2012. She completed her Postdoctoral Fellowship in 2014 at the University of Michigan.

In addition to her research, Jones is an associate professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, teaching genetics and molecular biology with the accompanying labs and clinical biochemistry. She also serves as Associate Department Chair for the Biology Department and as Director of the Biomedical Science Graduate Program. She also works on the LSAMP grant with Dr. Govin Menon. Jones has been on staff at TROY since 2015.

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

MARY SUE KELLEY
Mrs. Mary Sue Kelley, age 82, of the Damascus community, died Saturday, July 29, 2023, at her home.

Mary Sue was born to the late Lena Pearl Davis and Fondie D. Harrison on January 8, 1941 in Elba, Alabama. She is a graduate of Elba High, a life-long member of Damascus Baptist Church, and a founding member of the Damascus Senior Center.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2023, at 11 a.m., at



Damascus Baptist Church with Rev. Hubert McWaters and Rev. Elbert Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Damascus Baptist Church Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home.

Visitation was at Damascus Baptist Church on Wednesday, from 10-11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Coffee County Training Center, 801 Aviation Blvd., Enterprise, AL 36330.

Mary Sue was preceded in death by her husband, Billy Ervin Kelley; her parents, Lena Pearl Davis and Fondie D. Harrison; and brothers, Wayne, Lavone, and Jimmy Harrison.

Survivors include her sons: Christopher (Nenita) Kelley and Troy (April) Kelley, all of Elba; grandsons: Glenn (Mary) Kelley, Jon (Kandance) Kelley, and Clay Kelley; granddaughters: Brigitte Kelley and Reagan Kelley; nine great-grandchildren; sisters: Betty Jo (Ken) Hicks, Elba, and Glenda Annette (Mike) Windham, New Brockton, Ala.; along with numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

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Alabama Law Enforcement Agency warns of fentanyl mixed with xylazine

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) is taking measures to warn and educate the public of an increase in the trafficking of fentanyl mixed with xylazine.

Xylazine, also known at “Tranq,” is a powerful sedative that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved for veterinary use. Xylazine can be found in liquid and powder forms and can be injected, snorted, smoked or swallowed. It can be mixed with other drugs including cocaine, heroin and fentanyl.

ALEA Secretary Hal Taylor said, “One of the most alarming issues with the increased use of xylazine and fentanyl is the fact that xylazine is not an opioid. This means naloxone (Narcan) will not reverse its effects, placing users at a higher risk of suffering a fatal drug poisoning.”

However, experts still recommend administering naloxone if someone might be suffering a drug poisoning. People who inject drug mixtures containing xylazine also can develop severe wounds, including

necrosis, which is the rotting of human tissue and could potentially lead to amputation.

According to the CDC and shared in a release by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, 107,735 Americans died between August 2021 and August 2022 from drug poisonings, with 66 percent of those deaths involving synthetic opioids like fentanyl. The Sinaloa Cartel and Jalisco Cartel in Mexico, using chemicals largely sourced from China, are primarily responsible for the vast majority of the fentanyl that is being trafficked in communities across the United States.

“Not only is this affecting citizens across the nation, this rise is also a cause for concern regarding the well-being of our law enforcement and first responders. Just recently, one of our own, ALEA Senior Trooper Charles May, came in contact with an individual who was exposed to fentanyl mixed with xylazine and has suffered health-related issues since the incident occurred. This is why we

feel it is imperative to share this information with all of our partners and the public.”

On Wednesday, May 3, at approximately 11:36 a.m., Sr. Trooper May, who is assigned to ALEA’s Highway Patrol Division, was in the process of transporting a subject to the Macon County Jail when the individual became ill and emergency services

were called to the scene. The subject was administered Narcan and was later transported to East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika for treatment. Shortly after Narcan was administered to the subject, Sr. Trooper May also fell ill and was then transported to East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika for treatment. He has since suffered from health-related issues.

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Why Do We Use Flowers at Funerals?

Flowers at funerals are no new idea, as they have been found at ancient Neanderthal burial sites dating back to 60,000 B.C.E. Blossoms have been a crucial part of the funeral process for much of human history. However, they have not always been used as decoration or as a symbol of sympathy and emotion. Rather, their origin is much more practical.

Before embalming, which started in the 1800s, flowers were used to cover up some of the natural processes of the deceased. Ancient writings, as old as the Talmud, have referenced fragrant flowers, as well as spices, being used in such a manner.

In order to keep an inviting way for loved ones who wanted to personally say goodbye to the departed, flowers created a more welcoming environment. Flowers were readily available and naturally scented, making them an ideal alternative to perfumes.

In the Victorian era, the deceased was set out in the family’s home for many days; large bouquets were used to maintain a fresh and welcoming atmosphere for visitors. Many of the shapes of funeral arrangements we see today originate from this period. The size, color, look, and even grandeur of the offerings were seen as an important way to pay tribute to the deceased.

While the historic use of flowers in funerals has changed, there are a few other key reasons why they are still an essential part of many burial rites. First, they are symbolic. After embalming became commonplace, flowers transformed into a symbol and took on many different forms, including the circular wreath, which reminded onlookers of eternal life.

From its original purpose of offering a fresh scent during funeral procedures, blossoms are modernly used to send messages of comfort to those who are mourning. Flowers also represent the character of the person who has passed. By incorporating them into the service, blossoms create a blissful environment for those who are saddened by the departure of their loved one.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

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“Love Never Ages”

CHURCH NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Elba First Assembly of God

As I am writing this at home, there is a lot of volume. In other words, it is loud - REALLY loud!

A three-year-old grandchild along with his four-year-old and eleven-year-old siblings, playing with their daddy, definitely raises the decibel level. But I don't mind. It's an answer to prayer!

A few weeks ago, we picked up our family from the airport in New Orleans. Although Wanda and I had visited them twice, they had been in Africa for four years. Of course, we had missed them terribly. So, them being with us and watching them play more than makes up for the amped up volume.

I guess it is human nature to allow situations to irritate us and cause us to wish for something different. But stop and think. Count your blessings. Be aware of the goodness of God in your life.

There will always be noise, and many things will call for your attention. These will, in fact, be a distraction from what really matters. But focus. Focus on the goodness and blessings that God has given. Those things matter. Those things endure.

Woodland Grove Baptist Church to hold Homecoming service Aug. 13th

Woodland Grove Baptist Church will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, Aug. 13, with services beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Music will be led by Bruce Wright, and the morning message will be delivered by Coffee County Baptist Association Director Jud Waldrop. Lunch will be served in the Family Life Center following the morning service.

Basin Baptist Church to celebrate 90th anniversary at Homecoming

Basin Baptist Church, located at 9757 Hwy. 189 S, Elba, Ala., will celebrate its 90th church anniversary during Homecoming services Sunday, Aug. 13th.

Services will begin with a music program at 9:30 a.m., and the morning worship service will begin at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Dr. Sam

Self delivering the message. All are invited to stay after the services to enjoy a covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall.

All members, current and past, are encouraged to make plans to come to Basin on Sunday, Aug. 13, to help celebrate this special milestone for the church!

Greater New Zion MB Church plans Back-to-School Bash for Aug. 5th

Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church is sponsoring a "Back To School Bash" on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

There will be bouncy houses, water slides, food, ice cream truck, music, basketball and more!

The church is located at 720 East Davis Street, Elba. Phone 334 897-5545, or e-mail <greaternewzionelbaal@gmail.com> for more information.

Shiloh Baptist Church plans invites all to Homecoming set for Sunday, Aug. 6

Shiloh Baptist Church, located at 218 County Rd. 407, Elba, Ala., will be holding Homecoming services Sunday, Aug. 6, at 10:30 a.m.

Worship music will be led by Billy, Heather and Chanler Coppage. Mack King will be the special speaker.

Fellowship and food following the service. All are invited to attend.

Revival set for next week at Shiloh Baptist

Shiloh Baptist Church, located at 218 County Rd. 407, Elba, Ala., will hold Revival Services next week, Aug. 7th through Aug. 9th,

beginning at 6 p.m. each night. Special guest speaker will be Dr. John Ganger.

All are invited to attend.

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Annual meeting held for Zoar Cemetery

The annual business meeting for Zoar Cemetery was held Saturday, July 22, at 10 a.m., in the Morrow Hall building, located on Coffee County Rd 331.

Nineteen individuals from nearby and far away, who attended the meeting, enjoyed both fellowship and visiting gravesites. All attendance was greatly appreciated.

A financial report was given, and project work outlined for 2023-2024.

Anyone with loved ones or friends buried in Zoar Cemetery, who did not attend the meeting is urged to contribute to the upkeep of the cemetery by personal or financial support. Contributions may be made to the Zoar Cemetery Association Inc. and can be mailed to the secretary, Jo Hodge, at 3631 County Road 306, Elba, AL 36323.

All assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Round and About

With Eria's Daughter

334-282-2200



Scripture: Rejoicing in Answered Prayer. Psalm 28: 1-9

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Betty Refreege, Faye Manning, Angie Dawson, Shirley Coleman, Vernetter Purvis, Alex M. Hutchinson, Larry Rogers, Yazmin McNair, Juanita B. Brooks

September Birthdays / Anniversaries

Min. Arthur Gilford 9/10
Brandy Caldwell 9/10
Novella Robinson 9/11
Grover and Eria Lindsey Belcher 9/12 W.A. (in memory)
A'miya Alexis Hutchinson 9/12
Min. Cedric Williams 9/12
R.C. Carpenter 9/13 (in memory)
Linda Hooks 9/13
Tyrek Pruitt 9/13
Verlin Whitfield 9/13
Michael Terrell 9/14
Jarrel K. Smedley 9/14
Victoria Florence 9/14

The Priority of Preaching

Preaching holds a prominent place in spreading the gospel message. This has been the case throughout the history of the church. It was at the preaching of Peter on the day of Pentecost that the church was born. Phillip the evangelist went to Samaria proclaiming the gospel (Acts 8:5).

The Apostle Paul said, "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" (1 Corinthians 9:16). The ultimate challenge for preaching given in scripture is Paul's rhetorical question of Romans 10:14 "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" Some would say that

preaching is outdated in our world today. In prescription for preaching, Woodrow Kroll addresses this issue when he asks, "Are conditions today any different which would make the gospel message irrelevant? You might venture an answer in the affirmative. Clothes are different, styles are different, customs are different, therefore people must be different. But you are wrong. The Bible doesn't deal with clothes, styles, or customs. It deals with man's sin and God's provision for man's sin." Kroll goes on to not that our universal sin problem remains the same, despite ever-changing clothing styles and customs. A universal problem requires a universal cure: faith in Christ. That's what makes the gospel message relevant even in the twenty-first century. - A.E.A.

Question / Answer Section

Questions for the Week of 8/3/23

True or False

Q: The angel of the Lord told Joseph to take Mary as his wife.

A: True [Matthew 1:20]

Q: To eat and drink and enjoy the good of labor is the gift of God.

A: True [Ecclesiastes 3:13]

Thought to Remember

We need to know God's truth to expose Satan's lies.

Questions for the Week of 8/10/23

Multiple Choice

Q: From God's perspective, people are like what? (grasshoppers, sparrows, roses)

Q: Melchizedek was the king of what city? (Salem, Ai, Tyre)

Today is a good day! Be grateful.
Eria's Daughter, Sue

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THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we Think, Say or Do

- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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Church Directory



IN HIM WAS
LIFE AND
THE LIFE
WAS THE
LIGHT OF
MEN

**ABOUNDING GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Rockey Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

**ABUNDANT LIFE
CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.**
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class... 6:30 p.m.

**BETHANY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:30 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**BROOKLYN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE
METHODIST CHURCH**
Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service... 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**CORNERSTONE BIBLE
CHURCH**
Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night... 7:00 p.m.



**COVENANT COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Paul Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Fellowship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week & meal" 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer... 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**DAMASCUS BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**DORCAS BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

**EAON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Philip Box, Minister
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
David Noble, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
OF PROPHECY**
H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night... 6:00 p.m.
Thur. Night... 7:00 p.m.

**ELBA DELIVERANCE
TABERNACLE**
Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Kit Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**ELBA ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**EVANGELIST TEMPLE
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**
Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.

**FAITH CHAPEL
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Philip Adcock, Pastor
Sunday Morning... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON
Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS
CHURCH**
Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.

**GODS POWER HOUSE
EVANGELISTIC CHURCH**
Overseers - Billy Berry
Sat. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 4:00 p.m.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP
John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**GREATER NEW ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC
CHURCH**
W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**HAM UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 8:45 a.m.

**HAW HILL ASSEMBLY
OF GOD**
Shirley Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**HOLY TEMPLE COGIC
CHURCH**
Glenwood, AL
Sunday Prayer... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service... 11:00 a.m.

INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Wesley D. Ard, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH
Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School... 8:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Matthew Morris, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:15 p.m.

**KINSTON 1st BAPT
CHURCH**
Heath Fountain, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LIVING WORD CHURCH
Derrick Stinson, Pastor
Saturday Service... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Youth Service 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**LIBERTY CHURCH OF
CHRIST**
Greg Hanchey, Minister
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH
Charles Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**MT. CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays

**MT. GILEAD BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Dewey Emfinger, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 5:00 p.m.

**MT. OLIVE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Olan Strickland, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**MT. ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Will Jordan, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

**MT. VERNON ASSEMBLY
OF GOD**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

**Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
NEW ABUNDANT LIFE DEL.**
Linda Williams, Pastor
Sunday... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Even... 7:30 p.m.

**NEW JERUSALEM
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST - ENTERPRISE**
W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Morning Worship... 9:00 a.m.
Evening Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening... 7:00 p.m.
Friday Evening... 7:00 p.m.

**NEWBIA BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Ed Russell, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**NEW BROCKTON
METHODIST CHURCH**
Dr. Craig Bailey, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

**NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Terry Godwin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW EBENEZER
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Randall Pearson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:00 p.m.

NEW GLORIOUS COGIC
James Starks Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Bib Stud Wed... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Allen Dies, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY
OF GOD CHURCH**
Brad Sasser, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HOPE BAPT
CHURCH**
Lanny Shepard, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW PHILADELPHIA
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST**
Loreal Flowers, Minister
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**OAK GROVE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Julian Mitchell, Pastor
1st, 4th Sun. Morn.
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

**OLD TABERNACLE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Lee Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**PINEY GROVE ASSEMBLY
OF GOD - SAMSON**
Terry McCrummen, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Worship... 7:00 p.m.

**PRaise & GLORY
WORSHIP CENTER**
Roy L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ROCKY HEAD M.B.
CHURCH**
A. R. Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**ROETON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Kerry Saxon, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

**SHADY GROVE AME
James Boots, Pastor**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**SHILOH BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Leon Fortune, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 4:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

**TAYLOR HILL COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 5:00 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST**
Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill
Sunday School... 11:00 a.m.
Noon Worship... 12 noon
Even. Service... 7:00 p.m.
Youth Ser. Mon... 7:00 p.m.
Wed Bible Class... 7:00 p.m.
Fri Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.

**THE WAY OF HOLINESS
CHURCH, Elba**
Max Reed, Minister
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

**TRINITY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
C.P. Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VANDERBILT HOLINESS
CHURCH**
Donald Mills, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed.

SPORTS NEWS

Views From
The Pressbox
By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our grandson Lawson is still very much into Pokémon and now has his Nanny and even his Aunt Kim spending time hunting Poke stops and trying to capture creatures on their phones. While I have never been into video games, many people are, and I am hoping that maybe one day soon the folks at Elba High will begin an ‘E Sports’ program for students like Lawson that are good at competing in the world of video games.

For what it is worth....

*** **It was ‘picture day’ at high schools** all across the state, and here at Elba it was a busy day as the football team and cheerleaders spent a muggy morning on the field having pictures made for the football program. I know the players hate to get dressed out and then stand around in the heat to have their mugshots made, but no one hates it more than the coaches, who reluctantly accept the annual event. I counted 32 varsity players and seven coaches in the Tigers team photo, which means the roster is set and the Tigers are now ready to go. Hey, the opening kickoff is only four Fridays away.

*** **As the preseason preview continues**, it is time to take a look at the teams that reside in both Class 3A, Region 2 and Class 2A, Region 2. Houston Academy made a big jump in the 3A ranks and claimed its first region crown ever a year ago, but has plenty of competition again this year from region foes Opp, Straughn and Pike County, not to mention region foes Providence Christian, Ashford, Daleville, Northside Methodist and Zion Chapel, which are all looking to make big news as they rebuild. In the 2A ranks, the trio of Ariton, G.W. Long and Wicksburg are all expected to challenge again for the region title, while there appears to be a big drop after that with the likes of Cottonwood, Geneva County, Abbeville, Zion Chapel and Samson fighting for the final playoff berth.

The coaching lineups are interesting among the 3A teams with Houston Academy’s Eddie Brundidge, Opp’s Matt Brunson and Pike County’s Mark Hurt atop the list, but others such as Straughn’s Ashley Kilcrease, Providence Christian longtime head coach Kenny Keith and New Brockton’s new head coach Jason Barnett looking to make their mark. Over in the 2A region, the coaching roster is filled with winner’s, led by Ariton’s Steven Kilcrease, Wicksburg’s Josh Cox, G.W. Long’s David Watts, Samson’s Jason Wambles and Zion Chapel’s enthusiastic head coach Cody Keene, Jr.

*** **A job is a job, especially when you don’t have one!** That saying was proven right again last week when former Tennessee head coach and former Alabama defensive coordinator Jeremy Pruitt was hired as an assistant football coach and junior high basketball coach at Plainview High School, his alma mater, in north Alabama. The 49-year-old Pruitt began his career as an assistant coach at Plainview under his father Dale Pruitt, who returned to Plainview in 2022 and will once again mentor his son. Pruitt rose to fame in the high school ranks as the defensive coordinator at Hoover High School under Coach Rush Propst and began his college coaching career at Alabama in 2007 as the director of player development. He was defensive coordinator for the Tide in 2017 when it won a national title, and was named the head coach at Tennessee the following season. He was replaced after three unsuccessful years with the Vols and then went to the NFL for one season with the New York Giants. He has not worked in football since 2021, but this season will be back on the sidelines. His wife was also hired at Plainview as a teacher, which also proves the another old saying ‘there is no place like home.’

*** **In closing.... A lot of Elba football fans will be keeping an eye** on the goings on up at Pike Liberal Arts since former longtime Elba assistant William Moguel has assumed the role as interim head coach for the Patriots. Coach Moguel is now the seventh head coach since 2020, and his friends and the folks up at Troy I’m sure are hoping he will hold the position for a long time to come.

Three team race for title appears to be shaping up in Class 2A, Region 2

The Class 2A, Region 2 team roster includes eight teams, and while only two of the teams posted a winning record last season, it is well-balanced region that includes five teams that boast region crowns in their trophy cases.

Ariton is in its 14th season in the 2A ranks after moving up from 1A in 2010, and the Purple Cats have claimed three region titles and have a combined record of 77-68 over the past 13 years.

G.W. Long will be entering its 22nd season in the 2A wars after moving up from 1A in 2002, has claimed five region crowns during its stay in the 2A ranks and has posted a combined record of 137-94 in the 21-year stay.

Wicksburg will be in only its second season in the 2A ranks after being in 3A circles the previous eight years (2014-2021), has claimed one region crown and owns a 6-6 record over its short return.

Cottonwood will be in its 20th year in Class 2A after moving up from the 1A

CLASS 2A REGION 2			
	Regular Season	Region Record	Playoffs
Ariton	10-2	7-0	1-1
G.W. Long	8-4	6-1	1-1
Wicksburg	6-6	5-2	1-1
Cottonwood	5-6	4-3	0-1
Geneva County	3-7	2-5	*
Abbeville	3-7	2-5	*
Zion Chapel	3-7	2-5	*
Samson	1-9	0-7	*

ranks in 2003, has claimed two region titles and owns a 109-98 combined record in 2A battles.

Geneva County will be in its 10th season in Class 2A after moving up from 1A in 2013, and has posted a combined record of 45-50 against 2A foes.

Abbeville will be in its eighth year in the 2A ranks after moving down from Class 3A in 2016, and during its stay in 2A has posted two region titles and a combined record of 48-31.

Zion Chapel will be entering its 16th season in the 2A ranks after moving up from Class 1A in 2007

Class 3A, Region 2 may be most talented region in state heading into 2023

When area sports fans take a look at Class 3A, Region 2, they see a nine-team region that includes five perennial winners (Houston Academy, Opp, Straughn, Pike County and Providence Christian) and four teams (Ashford, Daleville, Northside Methodist and New Brockton) that are hoping to bounce back after recent struggles on the gridiron.

Houston Academy will be in its 8th season in the 3A ranks after moving up in 2016 and has claimed one region title and compiled a combined record of 28-45 since the move up in class.

Opp will be in its 14th season in 3A since moving down in 20-10 and during its stay in the lower classification has won three region titles and amassed a combined record of 80-64.

Straughn will be in its second year in the 3A ranks, but its sixth in Class 3A in the past eight years, and during the past five in the classification have posted a combined record of 20-35.

Pike County will be in its 23rd season in the 3A ranks after moving down from 4A in 2000, and during its

tenure in 3A has claimed three state titles, nine region crowns and compiled a combined record of 188-83.

Providence Christian will be in its eighth year in the 3A ranks after moving up in 2016, and during that time has posted a combined record of 45-33.

Ashford will be in its second season in the 3A ranks after being in Class 4A since back in 1984, and last season posted a 2-7 record.

Daleville will enter its fourth season in Class 3A and during the last sixteen years has been has been a 3A competitor 14 years, has claimed four region titles in the sixteen years and in the last three years in the 3A ranks has a combined record of 4-26.

Northside Methodist will be in its second year in Class 3A after competing for the previous eight years as a private school member, and last season posted a 4-6 record.

New Brockton will be in its fourth season in Class 3A after 24 years in Class 2A, and as a 3A competitor the last three seasons has posted a 5-23 record.

CLASS 3A, REGION 2			
	Regular Season	Region Record	Playoffs
Houston Academy	10-1	8-0	0-1
Opp	8-3	7-1	0-1
Straughn	7-4	6-2	0-1
Pike County	8-4	5-3	2-1
Providence Ch.	4-6	4-4	*
Ashford	2-7	2-6	*
Daleville	3-7	2-6	*
Northside Meth.	4-6	2-6	*
New Brockton	0-10	0-8	*

Wood Ducks place 4th at Dixie Pre-Majors World Series

The Alabama Wood Ducks, a 17 and under baseball team that includes a number of area high school players, placed fourth last week at the 2023 Dixie Pre-Majors Baseball World Series, in Louisiana.

The Wood Ducks fell behind early and never recovered in an 8-2 loss to Southland Hogs Black 8-2. Josh Gutierrez had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead the Wood Duck.

The Wood Ducks used an 8-run fourth inning to take command in a 10-4

win over Laurel-Jones, Mississippi. Judd Thomas had 2 hits and 2 rbi’s to lead the Wood Ducks at the plate, while Ty Sieving added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 2 rbi’s.

The Wood Ducks led all the way in a 3-2 win over North Charleston, South Carolina. Payton Green had 2 hits and 1 rbi to lead the Wood Ducks, while Blake Peterson added 1 hit and 2 rbi’s and Ty Sieving added 1 hit.

The Wood Ducks saw an early 10-4 lead evaporate

and needed one run in their final at-bat to get past Camden, Arkansas 12-11. Tayshaun McReynolds and Josh Gutierrez both had 3 hits, scored 3 runs and had 1 rbi to lead the Wood Ducks, while Riley Simmons added 3 hits and scored 2 runs.

The Wood Ducks battled for all seven innings in a 4-1 loss to the Southland Hogs Black, in semifinal play. Tayshaun McReynolds had 2 hits to lead the Wood Ducks while Riley Simmons added 1 hit and Baylon Foster scored 1 run.

and as a 2A competitor has posted a combined record of 44-108.

Samson will in its second season in Class 2A after

moving up a year ago, but had been a 2A team since 1984, and last season posted a 1-9 record in its return to the 2A ranks.

Veteran coaches lead teams in 2A

The coaching lineup in Class 2A, Region 2 includes a number of veteran coaches with three head coaches that are entering their seventh, ninth and 11th years as the head coaches for region teams.

Wicksburg’s Josh Cox is the dean of coaches in the region as the head coach of the Panthers heads into his 11th year at the helm and boasts a solid 58-41 career record.

Ariton’s Steven Kilcrease will be in his ninth year as the head coach for the Purple Cats and has a stellar career mark of 62-24 with the ‘Cats after an impressive 42-16 record in five years as the head coach at Pike Liberal Arts.

Samson’s Jason Wambles will be back for his seventh season as the Tigers head coach and has posted a 22-29 record at the school, after posting a 3-17 record in two years at Excel and a 32-44 record in seven years as the head coach at Kinston.

Cottonwood’s Dustin Harrison will be back for his fourth year as the head coach for Bears and has posted a 12-18 record, after posting a 14-18 record in three seasons at Northside Methodist.

Abbeville’s LaBrian Stewart is back for his fourth season with the Yellowjackets and during his stay has posted a 17-16 record, after posting a 16-35 record in five years at Northview and a 3-27 record in three years at Bullock County.

G.W. Long’s David Watts will be entering his third season as the head coach for the Rebels and in two years has compiled a 16-6 record, after posting a 3-17 record in two seasons as the head coach at Georgiana.

Geneva County’s Josh Thompson will be back for his second season with the Bulldogs and led his team to a 3-7 record in year number one.

Zion Chapel’s Coy Keene, Jr., will be back to lead

New faces will be on the sidelines in 3A, region 2

The coaching fraternity among the football teams in Class 3A, Region 2 includes four first year head coaches, one second year head coach and three coaches entering their third season at the helm at their schools, all hoping to follow in the footsteps of Providence Christian veteran head coach Kenny Keith, who will be entering his 13th year in command at the Dothan private school.

Kenny Keith, only the second head football coach in the history of Providence Christian, will be entering his 13th season with the

Eagles and has led his teams to a combined record of 68-49.

Eddie Brundidge will be back for his third season at Houston Academy and has led the Raiders to a 16-6 record in his first two years at the helm, including one region title. Brundidge also has six years head coaching experience at Jackson, where his teams posted a 19-43 record.

Ashley Kilcrease will be entering his third year at Straughn and in two years in command has led the Tigers to a 14-8 record. Kilcrease had also coached at Brantley, where his teams posted a combined record of 48-16.

Will Garner will be in his third year as the head coach at Daleville and has led the Warhawks to a combined record of 3-17 in his first two years on the job.

Mark Hurt will be back for his second season at Pike County after leading the Bulldogs to an 8-4 record in his first year at the helm. Hurt had also coached at Blount for three years (22-11), B.T. Washington for seven years (21-47) and Keith for three years (8-21).

First year coaches at region sites include Matt Brunson, at Opp, after a long and successful career in Florida; David Stapleton, in his first year ever as a head coach at Ashford; Stefan Gainey, in his first head coaching stint ever, at Northside Methodist; and Jason Barnett, at New Brockton after five years at Citronelle, where his teams posted a combined record of 20-31.

While the teams in the region appear to be loaded and potential state title contenders, the new coaches could have a surprise or two up their sleeves.

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Seniors age 60 and older encouraged to get active with Elba Senior Center

Seniors age 60 and older are encouraged to attend the Elba Senior Citizens Center.

Along with nutritious meals five days a week, the director works with seniors to help them apply for several programs they may qualify, including Farmers Market Vouchers, HRDC- Energy Assistance, Food Assistance, Medicaid Waiver, Senior Rx Program, Medicare Savings Program, etc. Seniors must be an active participant at the Elba Senior center for the director to sign them

To become a center participant, attendance is not based on income. This is a social place to come have fun and find or make new friends. If interested in joining the center stop by or call (334) 897-3019. The center is located at 304 N. Factory Ave. (across from the Elba Police Department).

Seniors age 60 and older that cannot come to the center may qualify for meals being brought to their home.

"Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets Monday nights at the Rabbit Hole in Elba, Ala.

The "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets every Monday night at the Rabbit Hole, 218 Factory Ave., Elba, beginning at 6 p.m.

This is a safe, confidential space to talk, network and grow in recovery. For more information, contact Rory Vignola on Facebook.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA Elba Division

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EVA MILLER Deceased

Case No: PC2023-039

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION for the Estate of Eva Miller has been filed by Bernard Miller and that said petition is hereby set for hearing on the 22nd day of August, 2023 at 9:30 o'clock a.m. Any person having any objection to the issuance of Letters of Administration for said Estate make the same known in writing filed with this Court on or before the day and time of said hearing.

Done this the 12th day of July, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thomson
Probate Judge
7-20,27&8-3 pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JAMES TRAVIS SPURLIN Deceased

Case No: PC2023-040

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Summary Distribution has been filed in the Probate Court of Coffee County - Elba Division on the 14th day of July, 2023, for distribution of assets from the Estate of James Travis Spurlin, deceased, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof, and pursuant to law, the Court

shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the Estate of said decedent.

Witness my hand and seal this the 18th day of July, 2023

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thomson
JUDGE OF PROBATE
7-20,27&8-3 pd

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Carlson Environmental Consultants, PC of 1127 Curtis Street, Suite 100, Monroe, NC 28112 has completed all work on the Coffee County Landfill Gas Expansion Phase IV at 7733 AL-125, Elba, AL 36323. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify the above-named Contractor and the Engineer, CDG, Inc. of 1840 East Three Notch Street, Andalusia, AL 36421. 7/27, 8/3,10&17-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

Case No: PC-2023-037

IN THE MATTER OF DARRYLL DEAN MOON Deceased

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 27th day of July, 2023 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. Witness my hand this the 27th day of July 2023.

/s/ Bobby Mayfield
Personal Representative

8/3,10,17-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF: S.R.C. A MINOR CHILD

CASE NO: PC 2023-045

NOTICE

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER Please take notice that the above styled matter has been set for a hearing on the Petition for Single Transaction in Liew of Letters of Conservatorship filed by the Petitioner, DEBRA ALISON GRANTHAM, on the 5th day of September, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Probate Court of Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama. Done this 28th day of July, 2023

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
HON. JODEE R. THOMPSON
PROBATE JUDGE
Coffee County, Alabama
8/3,10,17-pd

Notice of Public Sale. An online sale will be held at www.storagetreasures.com for A-Less Storage Enterprise, Alabama on or after 12:30 PM Thursday August 24th 2023. Personal property of the following units will be sold for cash to satisfy owner's lien for due in accordance with AL Code § 8-15-34

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Coffee County School System trying to identify all persons with disabilities

The Coffee County School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities, ages 3-21 years, who are not enrolled in an educational setting, and all 0-3-year-old children with disabilities.

If a parent of a child with disabilities or for those who know of someone who is disabled, contact the principal of the local school or the Special Education Coordinator's office at the Coffee County Board of Education at (334) 897-5016.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided.

Additional contact information for the Coffee County School System:

- Tami Crosby, Special Services Coordinator, (334) 897-5016
- Carolyn Broaden, Federal Programs Coordinator, (334) 897-5016
- Megan Driggers, Principal of Kinston School, (334) 565-3016
- Holli Richardson, Principal of New Brockton Elementary School, (334) 894-6152
- Bradley Bowers, Principal of New Brockton Middle School, (334) 894-2350
- Alonzo Barkley, Principal of New Brockton High School, (334) 894-2350
- Jared Robison, Principal of Zion Chapel School, (334) 897-6275



The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 held a special called meeting Monday, July 31, for a Master Mason degree. Brother Joseph Hayden Disotell was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The brothers in attendance for this meeting enjoyed fellowship, food and work. Those pictured above include: (front, l to r) Shane Goude, Tim Marler, Mike Marler, Larry Shaw, Joe Daugherty, Joseph Hayden Disotell, Randy Hawthorne, Wendell Black, Seth Hanchey, Dorman Richards, Jerome Blackmon, and Eddie Kelley; (second row, l to r) John Sipes, Mike Amison, Joshua Camley, Tom Nesbit, James Beasley, Jim Hill, Heath Hornsby, Mike Murphy, and Drexel Richards; (third row, l to r) Ray Kyle, Harry Young, Justin Prescott, James McDaniels, Ronnie Rawls, Larry Selman, Michael Phelps, and Johnny Davis; and (back row, l to r) Ashton Davis, Brian Smith, Tommy Morrow, Ross Jackson, Joe Watson, Jack Caradine, and Howard Oliver.

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LIFESTYLES

Taylor Family reunion set for this Saturday in Elba

The descendants of William Gardner and Richard Opey Taylor of Elba will have a reunion Saturday, Aug. 5, at the Elba Masonic Lodge, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. with a potluck lunch at noon. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish, photos, and stories. See “Taylor Family Reunion” Facebook page for more information. RSVP to Lee, 334-590-4478.

U.S. Congressman Barry Moore to speak at Aug. 16th RWCC meeting

U.S. Congressman Barry Moore will be the guest speaker of the Wednesday, Aug. 16, meeting of the Republican Women of Coffee County to be held at the Enterprise Country Club. The meeting starts at 11 a.m. with social time. An optional \$12 buffet begins at 11:30 and the program begins at approximately 12 noon. Moore, an Enterprise native, served eight years as Alabama House District 91 Representative prior to being elected to Congress. Currently serving his second term in the House of Representatives, Moore serves on the Agriculture and Judiciary Committees. He recently accepted the CPAC Award for Conservative Excellence for his 100-percent conservative voting record. Everyone is invited to the meeting, but reservations are required. RSVP to Shannon no later than Aug. 13 at 334-494-2753 or <rwccreservations@gmail.com> and indicate if planning to eat.



The Elba Lions Club hosted Coffee County Commissioner Sonny Moore as the guest speaker for the Tuesday, July 25, meeting. The Elba Lions Club meets at the Elba Senior Citizens Center. Commissioner Moore provided an update on county operations. He is pictured above (center) with several of the Elba Lions Club members (wearing yellow vests).

Vogle Unit 3 begins commerical operation in powering future

South Alabama Electric Cooperative’s commitment to powering homes and businesses 24/7/365 requires a diverse energy mix, and South Alabama Electric Cooperative has completed crucial steps toward keeping reliable power flowing in the future. Georgia Power announced on Monday the commercial operation of the new Unit 3 of Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant in Georgia. South Alabama Electric Cooperative’s wholesale power supplier, PowerSouth, will purchase 125 megawatts of the carbon-free, zero-emission electricity generated by the Unit, which – along with the currently-under-construction Unit 4 – becomes the first newly-constructed nuclear asset in the United States in over three decades. “Vogle’s addition to the reliable energy mix that serves our community will have unparalleled value,” said General Manager David Bailey. “It is dependable around the clock, and it will help protect our members from the cost of potential carbon restrictions in the future. Nuclear has the ability to provide large amounts of power with no air pollutants or greenhouse gas emissions.” Unlike traditional fos-

sil-fuel generation, nuclear plants do not burn anything. They use uranium, a naturally occurring element, as fuel. The atoms in the fuel are split to generate heat, which produces steam. The steam pressure turns a turbine connected to a generator that spins to produce electricity. A half-inch uranium pellet creates as much energy as 149 gallons of oil, 17,000 cubic feet of natural gas and one ton of coal ore. Vogle Unit 4 will soon follow. Georgia Power reports the final stages of construction and testing are ongoing, and Unit 4 just last week received final approval from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to begin fuel load and startup testing. Once online, Vogle’s two new units will produce enough energy to power half a million homes. Across the U.S., nuclear energy supplies more than half of America’s carbon-free electricity. Nuclear generation is a steady energy production resource while renewable sources, like wind and solar, are variably limited by the weather. The cost of nuclear electricity is also projected to remain stable over the long-term, making it a predictable resource when fuel prices rise. As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, South Alabama Electric Cooperative will continue to keep expenses as low as possible. We also offer resources to help you manage your use and your bills. Visit our website at www.southaec.com for tips and tools. Reliable nuclear energy will power our communities for the future. It will provide the next generation of service and affordable electricity for years to come.

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